(a) whether it is proposed to restructure shift in factories in order to increase production or to give employment to more persons; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Engagement of girl child as labour

2829. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any data with specific focus on engagement of girl child, as labourers in various difficult jobs like agriculture, salt industry, carpet industry and as domestic help; and

(b) whether the International Labour Organization (ILO) has communicated to Government and India specific references on exploitation of girl child, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) While, as per the 2001 Census, the number of working children in the country was 1.2 crore, gender-wise and industry-wise details are not maintained.

(b) No, Sir.

Annual expenditure on social welfare schemes

2830. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India spends just over 1 per cent of its Gross Domestic Produce (GDP) on social welfare scheme as against 20 to 30 percent of GDP spent by developed countries;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many of the poorer countries in Africa and Asia spend more than India on Social Welfare Schemes;

(c) if so, the details of the amount spent in percentage of GDP on social welfare schemes by major advanced countries and developing countries in Asia and Africa; and

(d) what steps are proposed to be taken to increase the annual expenditure on social welfare schemes for poor in urban and rural areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) According to information received from the Ministry of Finance, total combined expenditure of Central and State Governments on social services in 2008-09 (BE) was Rs. 6.72 percent of GDP at current market prices. Social services include education; sports; art and culture; medical and public health; family welfare; water supply and sanitation; housing; urban development;